

WASHINGTON

Between 2008 and 2012, institutions and individuals in Washington received \$9.4 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Humanities Washington for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage.

Below are some examples.

- Consisting of six homestead cabins from the late 1800s, containing artifacts such as masks, carvings, and tools, the **Orcas Island Historical Museum** documents island life both before and after European settlement. A \$100,000 Save America's Treasures grant was awarded to secure, fireproof, and control these historic buildings' interior climate.
- With support from a \$935,500 grant, the Washington State Library, Olympia, is digitizing 200,000 pages of historic newspapers from 1870 to 1922 such as the *Yakima Herald* and the *Tacoma Times*. This work is part of **Chronicling America**, an NEH–Library of Congress collaboration.
- Supported by a \$215,500 grant, **Civility and American Democracy**, a two-day conference and workshop at Washington State University, Pullman, in spring 2011, drew scholars of history, philosophy, religion, architecture, and communications.
- **The Plateau Peoples** include numerous tribes who once lived in the watershed of the Columbia River, such as the 9,000-year-old Kennewick Man discovered in 1996. With a \$142,500 grant to Washington State University, a web portal devoted to collections and archives of these cultures will see its intellectual content enhanced.
- The **Washington State Historical Society** received a \$215,000 grant to preserve and digitize documents, film, photos, videotape, and other materials assembled by a consortium of seventeen college archives documenting women's history. These collections are accessible to researchers through one website.
- The **Records of Early English Drama (REED)** project at the University of Puget Sound has published nearly 16,000 pages of text that have compelled scholars to revise many suppositions about seventeenth century theater companies. Recipient of three recent grants totaling \$775,000, REED is extending its survey to the Inns of Court, a venue for Shakespeare's plays, and earlier London performance history.
- William Brumfield's multi-decade photographic documentation of historic Russian buildings captured countless images of architectural achievement that might otherwise be forgotten. With support from a \$325,000 grant, the **University of Washington, Seattle**, is preserving and presenting 30,000 Brumfield photographs in a text-and-image database.
- The Book-It Repertory Theater mixes literature, theater, and public conversation, as it did with the production of **Huckleberry Finn—Uncensored** with the help of a Spark Grant from Humanities Washington.
- **Big Idea Talks**: a collaboration between the Walla Walla Public Library and Whitman College is a public lecture and conversation series featuring college faculty in Walla Walla and supported by a Spark Grant from Humanities Washington.
- The **Cowlitz County Historical Museum**, Kelso, hosted the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition *Key Ingredients: America by Food*.

The logo consists of an orange speech bubble pointing downwards. Inside the bubble, the word "Talking" is written in a white, cursive-style font, and the word "POINTS." is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font below it.

Talking POINTS.

NATIONWIDE

NEH supports programs and projects that contribute directly and dramatically to the cultural life and historical perspective of tens of millions of Americans.

Here are some examples.

PRESERVING THE FIRST DRAFT OF HISTORY

Nothing captures the character of a community or the spirit of an era better than its newspapers. *Chronicling America*, a partnership between NEH and the Library of Congress, is digitizing millions of pages taken from newspapers dating back to the early Republic, making it possible to search the pages online for any word or phrase—at no charge.

AMERICAN VOICES

The papers of prominent Americans are a vital part of our cultural heritage, and NEH funds many projects to assemble and preserve them, including complete sets of collected papers for ten presidents from Washington to Lincoln to Eisenhower as well as public figures such as Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King Jr., George Marshall, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Mark Twain.

SUCCEEDING BY THE BOOK

Over the past forty-five years, scholars supported by Endowment grants have produced more than 7,000 books—including numerous classics such as Dumas Malone's *Jefferson and His Time*, James McPherson's *Battle Cry of Freedom*, and Louis Menand's *The Metaphysical Club: A Story of Ideas in America*—that have garnered scores of awards, including eighteen Pulitzer Prizes.

PAST AND PRESENT IN PIXELS

NEH investments in the digital humanities make it possible for a student to walk the corridors of the Temple of Karnak in ancient Egypt in virtual 3-D, or to visit the 1964–65 World's Fair held in New York. Spectral imaging has been used to create an online critical edition of explorer David Livingstone's previously unreadable field diary.

GENERATING PRIVATE SUPPORT

Almost \$2 billion in humanities support has been generated by the Challenge Grants program, which requires recipients to raise \$3 or \$4 in outside funds for every federal dollar they receive.

HISTORY ON SCREEN AND IN TOWN

NEH-supported films bring history alive. Twenty million Americans watched Ken Burns's *The War* (2007), and ten million saw *The Abolitionists* (2013). NEH also funds hundreds of exhibitions—not only blockbusters such as "King Tut" that make the heritage of other cultures accessible to the American public, but also smaller projects such as *Lincoln, the Constitution, and the Civil War* that reach classrooms across the country.

KEEPING TEACHERS UP-TO-DATE

Seminars, institutes, and workshops give teachers the opportunity to refresh and deepen their knowledge about the humanities through intense study. In the past three years, more than 2,100 college teachers and 7,500 schoolteachers have participated in NEH-supported programs, to the benefit of more than one million students.

REACHING ACROSS THE NATION

Last year, state humanities councils, NEH's affiliates in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories put on 16,800 reading and discussion programs, 6,500 literacy programs, 4,000 speakers bureau presentations, 5,400 conferences, 1,750 Chautauqua events, 24,000 media programs, and 7,300 technology, preservation, and local history events. The 56 councils also sponsored 2,300 exhibitions.